

## **REMARKS**

The examiner argues in the Advisory Action that the claims do not include the feature “each time a category changes, a table is updated”.

Taking claim 1 for example, it requires “a plurality of time intervals making up a continuous succession of such time intervals, such that a current time interval is terminated and a next time interval is initiated each time the signal quality characterization allocated to the signal changes”. Thus, each time the characterization changes, a new time interval is started. Claim 1 also requires “generating a record of each identified time interval”. Thus, it can be seen that “a record” is created for each time interval. Thus, the arguments previously presented apply, although the reference to a “table” can be considered as a reference to “a set of records”. Similarly, the reference in the arguments previously presented to “error performance” should be considered as reference to “signal quality”. Thus, it is believed that the arguments previously presented were appropriate for the claims previously on file.

The independent claims have now been amended to require at least three signal quality characterizations.

Each time the signal quality changes between these at least three characterizations, a record is generated, and a record is taken for each time interval. The invention thus provides a set of records in which the evolution of the signal quality characterization over time can immediately be determined. The records cover a continuous succession of time intervals, so that there is a signal characterization for each point in time.

The use of at least three signal characterizations means that the evolution of the channel signal quality over time can be determined. The record of time intervals

provides a representation of the performance of the signal over time in an extremely concise manner, as shown in Figures 4 to 8.

There is no disclosure or suggestion at all in Iryami of the approach now claimed. Iryami is simply concerned with obtaining a record of when the error rate reached a threshold value. There is no disclosure or suggestion of any set of records covering a continuous time interval, with the evolution of the signal quality characterization between at least three characterizations being recorded.

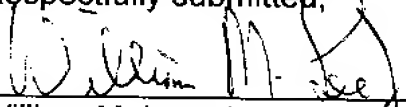
Thus, Iryami fails to disclose or suggest the time interval records as now claimed, and which can enable a low data volume log to be generated. In particular, the invention provides an efficient (low data volume) way of recording error-performance information on the basis of time intervals, and which provides instantly meaningful information to a user. There is no disclosure or suggestion of this approach in Iryami.

The arguments previously presented apply equally to the amended claims, and reference is made to the previously filed responses.

It is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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